Listings of claims:

- 1. (previously canceled)
- 2. (previously canceled)
- 3. (previously amended) A method for treatment of high whole blood viscosity in a patient comprising administering in a treatment regimen to said patient an effective amount of a composition comprising

where R is CH₃ or an alkyl, wherein said effective amount causes a reduction in whole blood viscosity in said patient.

- 4. (previously presented) The method of Claim 3, wherein said alkyl having 2 to 6 carbons.
- 5. (previously presented) The method of Claim 3, wherein said effective amount is from about 1 milligram to about 6 milligrams per kilogram body weight.
- 6. (withdrawn) A method for reducing whole blood viscosity in a patient blood sample, comprising the steps of:
 - a. collecting a blood sample from said patient; and
 - b. adding to said sample an effective amount of a composition comprising the compound

wherein R is CH₃ or an alkyl, wherein said effective amount causes a reduction in whole blood viscosity.

- 7. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 6, wherein said alkyl having 2 to 6 carbons.
- 8. (withdrawn) A method for monitoring the reduction of whole blood viscosity in a patient receiving treatment with a composition comprising

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where R is CH3 or an alkyl of 2 to 6 carbons, comprising:

- a. at a first time point, collecting a blood sample from said patient to form a first patient sample;
 - b. measuring the viscosity of said first patient sample to obtain a first viscosity value;
- c. at a second time point, collecting a blood sample from said patient to form a second patient sample;
- d. measuring the viscosity of said second patient sample to obtain a second viscosity value; and
- e. comparing said second viscosity value to said first viscosity value, wherein a reduction of viscosity is demonstrated by said second viscosity value being less than said first viscosity value.
- 9. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 8, wherein said viscosity value is determined by drawing an aliquot of said patient sample into a pipette which is in a stationary vertical position and measuring the time required to expel a drop of said patient sample from said pipette using constant pressure to obtain a time interval as said viscosity value.
- 10. (withdrawn) A screening method for determining if a patient's whole blood viscosity can be reduced by a treatment regimen with a composition comprising

where R is CH₃ or an alkyl of 2 to 6 carbons, comprising:

- a. collecting a blood sample from said patient prior to administration of said composition to form an untreated patient sample;
 - b. measuring the viscosity of said untreated patient sample to obtain a baseline viscosity

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value;

- c. administering to said patient said composition at an amount from about 1 milligram to about 6 milligrams per kilogram body weight;
- d. after administrating said composition to said patient, collecting a blood sample from said patient to form a treated patient sample;
- e. measuring the viscosity of said treated patient sample to obtain a post-treatment viscosity value; and
- f. comparing said post-treatment viscosity value to said baseline viscosity value, wherein said post-treatment viscosity value being less than said baseline time viscosity value demonstrating said composition is capable of reducing whole blood viscosity in said patient and wherein said post-treatment viscosity value being greater than or equal to said baseline viscosity value demonstrating said composition is not capable of reducing whole blood viscosity in said patient.
- 11. (withdrawn) The method of Claim 10, wherein said viscosity value is determined by drawing an aliquot of said patient sample into a pipette which is in a stationary vertical position and measuring the time required to expel a drop of said patient sample from said pipette using constant pressure to obtain a time interval as said viscosity value.
- 12. (previously amended) A method for treating a patient having a disease characterized by abnormally viscous whole blood comprising administering in a treatment regimen to said patient an effective amount of a composition comprising

where R is CH₃ or an alkyl, wherein said effective amount causes a reduction in whole blood viscosity in said patient.

- 13. (previously presented) The method of Claim 12, wherein said alkyl having 2 to 6 carbons.
 - 14. (previously presented) The method of Claim 12, wherein said effective amount is

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from about 1 milligram to about 6 milligrams per kilogram body weight.

- 15. (previously presented) The method of Claim 4, wherein said effective amount is from about 1 milligram to about 6 milligrams per kilogram body weight.
- 16. (previously presented) The method of Claim 13, wherein said effective amount is from about 1 milligram to about 6 milligrams per kilogram body weight.

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